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DR. F. S. NEWCOMER.—Prof. Chester's form of cabinet, I think, is the best in use, as well as the cheapest. I have an expensive portable box or cabinet, against which I caution all. Prof. Chester's form gives ready access to your slides, and a most convenient arrangement for library or cabinet use.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EYE-PIECES. (PAGE 175).

MR. W. H. BULLOCH objected to the report on the ground that the committee appeared to have followed the English system, which has 1.35 for the largest piece. The system is not well for America, he said, because there are no instruments here that are made according to the English system. No changes in the parts of an instrument can be made. The amplifying power of the eye-piece ought to be the basis of the standard and not the focal length. There is no make of instruments that corresponds to the standard the committee recommends. He spoke of variations that the density of the glass will cause between magnifying powers of eye-pieces that are made according to the same formula.

DR. BLACKHAM objected to the plan that Mr. Bulloch would adopt, because a contrary system had for a long time been in use, and all instruments in use have been constructed according to the one formula. It would require a revolution to bring about the proposed change. Much of the dissatisfaction that is charged to the system is due to the dishonesty of the makers.

PROF. W. A. ROGERS said it was not fair to charge dishonesty. Their system of measurement and tests are honestly defective, and it would be almost impossible to get a system that is free from objections. Some plans have been used by makers, but they have been too expensive to the makers for their general use to be required.

The consideration of the report came up as a special order on Thursday, and on motion to adopt, the discussion was continued.

DR. GEORGE E. BLACKHAM said that the report was too important to be hastily considered. It ought to be postponed until next year. Its publication in the Proceedings in the meantime would give an opportunity for its consideration by the members, who would also have an opportunity to test the scales spoken of in the report.

MR. EDW. BAUSCH said that the question was one of too much importance to be considered hastily, and the Society, which is large and pretends to be impartial, should not make itself liable to ill respect for expressing a bad opinion.

HON. J. D. COX said that he was thoroughly convinced of the great importance of the question contained in the report. He thought that the Society should pay some respect to the welfare of workers whose plants are regulated for the work of the standards in use, and cannot be changed without great cost. In regard to the merits of the matter it was questionable if the standards of the instruments should be so confined as the report recommended, because different grades are required even by the profession.